



Why Manage Groundwater in Sonoma Valley?

Without viable groundwater management, potential impacts:

- Permanent damage to aquifer
- Poor groundwater quality due to accelerated seawater intrusion and geothermal upwelling
- Declining basin groundwater levels over time
- Drilling deeper wells at greater expense
- Land subsidence
- Loss of local control, legal battles or adjudication for management control
- Decreased base flows for Sonoma Creek and other creeks in the Sonoma Valley
- Uncertain quality and quantity of groundwater in the future
- Increased pumping costs

Potential benefits of local groundwater management planning:

- Ensure Long-Term Viability of the Groundwater Aquifer
- Maintain Water Quality
- Prevent Aquifer Depletion and Stabilize Groundwater Levels
- Ensure Safe Drinking Water
- Meet Existing and Future Water Demands
- Diversify Supply Through Conjunctive use
- Maintain Local Control
- Environmental Benefits (E.G. Stream Restoration)
- Sustain Groundwater Quantity and Quality for Future Generations
- Increased Opportunity for State Funding